

Speech to the Faculty Senate 2.20.17

Lukas Wenrick, Student Government President

I came here today to talk about how SGA has changed over the last two years, some projects that we've accomplished, and to share the student vision for our University.

Expanded SGA from 25 paid members to:

- 25 paid , 37 freshman intern, and 40 committee members
- Over 100 students working diligently to ensure the student experience is being

Reorganized our External Relations

- 500% increase in social media engagement
- Live-stream meetings resulting in a drastic increase in meeting engagement
- Produce weekly "raider remix" event videos informing the student body of events happening on campus
- Produce weekly "Wright State Did You Know" videos to showcase interesting aspects of Wright State like our 3D printing, Legal Services, Convo Talks with UCIE, and Free Basketball Tickets

Planned Events

- Mock Debate
- Budget Forum
- Alternative Spring Break Program
 - o Expanded from 200 hours of community service last year to an expected 400+ hours this year
- Much more

Projects

- Removal of Division (Creation of outdoor amphitheater)
- Meal Plan Proposal
- Referendum Policy
- School Spirit Initiative (establishment of Rowdy Raiders)
- Care packages for International Students effected by travel ban
- Student Organization Achievement Recognition Program

I say this to let you know that we're expanding rapidly and many times are in need of projects for our members. Please feel free to reach out.

The other reason I'm here today though is to talk to you about the student vision for Wright State in the coming decade. To do so I'd like you to imagine the following scenarios 10 years from now:

1. At 2:00pm a group of students are able to get together and play basketball, regardless of the time of year

2. At 3:30pm after a grueling schedule of classes in Russ, a student is able to get a full meal in the student union
3. At 4:00pm a group of students are able to hangout in a space specifically designed for students. They study together, bond together, and grow together as Raiders.
4. At 6:00pm a group of students spend their reasonably priced meal plan at an all-you-care-to-eat facility and feel like their money was well spent. Student who live off-campus are even coming back to campus to enjoy this incredible deal.
5. At 8:00 our Division 1 women's track team is able to practice on their appropriate facilities.
6. Finally, at 1:00am, after hours of studying, our students in the residence halls can get a snack or caffeine to continue their studies.

These things aren't possible now, but they could be. I don't think we're asking too much to meet some of the basic needs of our students.

If, over the next 10 years, we focus on investing in the student experience, in experiential learning, in community building, while still expanding and strengthening our academic programs, Wright State will remain a competitive institution in our region of Ohio and maybe even expand our boundaries.

So, in 10 years, will Wright State be competing with local community colleges being allowed to offer 4 year degrees? Or, will we be competing with the other comprehensive institutions in Ohio while still remaining affordable and accessible?

- The choice is ours! Thank you!

(The Student Government Association asks for the support of the Faculty on student initiatives in the future. In order to resolve our budget shortfalls the most appropriate and immediate solution is to grow our enrollment. We believe that making strategic investments in student life will help resolve many of these issues and make our already attractive campus even more competitive across the region.)